

24 AUG 1964

~~SECRET KIMBO~~

Ad 832 ZAUG64

USN-27

ROUTINE

DIRNAVSECGRUPAC

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MADDOX/TURNER JOY INCIDENTS (C)

A. YOUR 192215Z

B. DIRNAVSECGRU 191522Z

OIC USN-467N SENDS

1. FOL IS SEQUENCE OF DIRECT SUPPORT SIGINT PROVIDED BSS  
MADDOX BY USN-467N DURING THE PERIOD 165 AUGUST:

A. A MSG INTERCEPTED BY USN-467N AT 311553Z JUL INDICATED THE  
POSSIBILITY THAT VESSEL T23 WAS SHADOWING THE MADDOX. HOWEVER,  
NO FURTHER EVIDENCE IS KNOWN TO SUBSTANTIATE A SHADOW AT THAT  
TIME, AND THE EVIDENCE IS CONSIDERED TO BE EXTREMELY TENUOUS.

B. BEGINNING AT 010136Z, A TRACKING STATION AT VINH SON BEGAN  
TRACKING THE MADDOX. TRACKING WAS EXTREMELY HEAVY THROUGHOUT  
THE DAY. OTHER TRACKING STATIONS INVOLVED WERE VINH, HON NGU,  
HON ME, HON EN, AND THANH HOA. (LOCATIONS OF TRACKING STATIONS

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ARE TENTATIVE AND BASED ON BACK PLOTTING OF USN-467N INTERCEPT OF THE DRV TRACKING NET. PRIOR TO THE PATROL VERY FEW OF THE OUTSTATIONS ON THE TRACKING NET HAD BEEN EQUATED TO KNOWN RADAR SITES.)

C. AT 1626Z A PORTION OF A MSG WAS INTERCEPTED WHICH MENTIONED THE QUOTE CHANGE OF THE ENEMY UNQUOTE.

D. AT 1645Z A MSG FROM USN-27 WAS RECEIVED WHICH INCLUDED THE FULL TEXT OF THE MSG PREVIOUSLY INTERCEPTED. IT INCLUDED THE STATEMENT, "WE HAVE DECIDED TO FIGHT THE ENEMY TONIGHT."  
(TOI 011627Z)

E. AT 011730Z A MSG WAS RECEIVED FROM USN-27 WHICH INDICATED THAT FISHING VESSELS WERE POSSIBLY BEING CLEARED FROM THE VICINITY OF HON ME. (TOI 011641Z.)

F. AT 1820Z AND 2010Z MSGS INTERCEPTED BY USN-467N INDICATED THAT VESSEL T377 WAS MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR HOSTILE ACTION AGAINST THE DESOTO MISSION IN THE HON NGU AREA.

G. AT 1910Z A MSG WAS RECEIVED FROM USN-27 (TOI 011652Z) WHICH REVEALED THAT THE LOCATION OF THE "ENEMY" VESSEL HAD BEEN PASSED TO T146. THE LOCATION GIVEN MATCHED THAT OF THE MADDOX AT THE TIME OF SIGHTING.

H. A MSG RECEIVED FROM USN-27 AT 1925Z (TOI 011755Z) STATED THAT THREE VESSELS FROM BATTALION 135 WERE BEING ORDERED FROM PORT WALLUT TO HON NE.

I. ON 2 AUGUST INTERCEPT BY USN-467N AGAIN INDICATED HEAVY TRACKING OF THE MADDOX BY STATIONS LOCATED AT THANH HOA AND VINH SON.

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J. MESSAGES INTERCEPTED BY USN-467N AT 0312Z AND 0336Z INDICATED THAT VES T377 WAS SHADOWING THE MADDOX. A MSG RECEIVED FROM USN-626J AT 0430Z INDICATED VES T142 AND T146 WERE ALSO ENGAGED IN SHADOW ACTIVITY.

K. MSGS INTERCEPTED BY USN-467N AT 0634Z, 0645Z, AND 0658Z CONTAINED FURTHER INDICATIONS OF SHADOWING BY T142 AND T146 AND ALSO REVEALED THAT 135 (PROBABLY MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT FLOTILLA 135) WAS ACTIVE IN THE AREA OF THE DESOTO MISSION. THEY ALSO REVEALED THAT THE QUOTE DIRECTORATE UNQUOTE WOULD ~~REINFORCE~~ COMMAND THE 135 AND CONTAINED INFO CONCERNING TACTICS BEING EMPLOYED BY THE DRV VESSELS, INCLUDING THE MENTION OF LAUNCHING TORPEDOES.

L. AT 0725Z A MSG RECEIVED FROM USN-414T (TOI 020444Z) ALSO INDICATED THE POSSIBILITY OF A TORPEDO ATTACK ON THE DESOTO MISSION.

M. ON 3 AUG, USN-467N AGAIN INTERCEPTED HEAVY TRACKING OF THE DESOTO PATROL (NOW CONSISTING OF MADDOX AND TURNER JOY) FROM STATIONS AT HON NGU, VINH, AND THANH HOA. MSGS RECEIVED FROM USN-27 ALSO INDICATED FURTHER SHADOWING BY T142, BUT NO HOSTILE INTENTIONS WERE NOTED. TWO HOURS AND NINE MINUTES OF POSS DRV NAVAL VOICE TRAFFIC INTERCEPTED ON 131.0E MCS WHILE OPERATING APPROX 75 MILES FROM THE DRV COAST MAY ALSO BE RELATED TO THE SHADOW ACTIVITY ON THAT DATE.

N. ON 4 AUGUST, MODERATELY HEAVY TRACKING OF MADDOX AND TURNER JOY BY THANH HOA AND HON EN WAS INTERCEPTED BY USN-467N. A MSG RECEIVED FROM USN-27 INDICATED VES T142 WAS AGAIN SHADOWING THE PATROL.

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0.7 MSGS RECEIVED FROM USN-414T AT 1200Z AND FROM USN-626J TWO  
AT 1212Z INDICATED A POSSIBLE ATTACK ON THE DESOTO MISSION  
THE NIGHT OF 4 AUG.

P. A MSG RECEIVED FROM USN-626J AT 050655Z INDICATED A  
POSSIBLE ATTACK BY MOTOR TORPEDO BOATS AGAIN ON THE NIGHT OF  
5 AUG; HOWEVER, AFTER THE ATTACK BY CARRIER-BASED PLANES ON  
DRV NAVAL INSTALLATIONS DURING THE AFTERNOON, NO FURTHER  
INDICATION OF HOSTILE ACTION WAS NOTED.

2. DURING BOTH ATTACKS, AN INTENSE EFFORT WAS MADE TO ISOLATE  
THE ATTACKING VESSELS IN VOICE COMMUNICATIONS.. SPECIAL  
EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON 125.0E AND 131.0E MCS AS POSSIBLE DRV  
NAVAL TRAFFIC HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN INTERCEPTED ON THESE FREQS.  
HOWEVER, ON BOTH OCCASIONS ALL FREQS BETWEEN 100 AND 200 MCS  
WERE BLOCKED BY VOICE ACTIVITY FROM THE MADDOX AND SUPPORTING  
AIRCRAFT. NO SIGNIFICANT MANUAL MORSE TRAFFIC WAS INTERCEPTED  
DURING EITHER ATTACK.

3. IN PROVIDING TIMELY DIRECT SUPPORT TO THE COMMANDING  
OFFICER, TWO FACTORS MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS. ONE  
WAS THE OUTSTANDING SUPPORT PROVIDED BY USN-27 AND USN-414T/  
USN-626J THROUGHOUT THE PATROL AND ESPECIALLY DURING THE PERIOD  
2 TO 4 AUG. THE SECOND WAS THE FACT THAT FOR PROBABLY THE  
FIRST TIME THE DESOTO TEAM INCLUDED ANALYSTS WITH THE PRIMARY  
FUNCTION OF ANALYZING INTERCEPTED TRAFFIC. THIS PROVED TO BE  
ESPECIALLY VALUABLE, AND IN SEVERAL INSTANCES HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT  
INTELLIGENCE WAS PASSED TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER MUCH EARLIER  
THAN WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE ANALYSTS BEING ABOARD.

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IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT FUTURE DESOTO PATROL TEAMS INCLUDE TWO ANALYSTS WHO ARE THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH THE PRIMARY COMINT TARGET OF THE PATROL.

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